

### REMARKS

This Amendment and Response is being submitted in response to the Office Action dated March 3, 2004, for which a response is due June 3, 2004. In the Office Action, the examiner objected to Figures 1A – 1B and 2A – 2F. In addition, claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1-5 and 8-9 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,785,463 issued to Janc et al. ("Janc"). Claims 6, 7, 10 and 11 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the Section 112 rejection. Claims 6-7 and 10-11 are being amended and claims 1-5 and 8-9 are being deleted. In addition, claims 12-26 are being added. Claims 6-7, 10-11 and 12-26 remain pending. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the amendments and remarks made herein are respectfully requested.

Replacement sheets for Figures 1A – 1B and 2A – 2F are being submitted herewith to correct the deficiencies noted in the Office Action.

The claims have been amended to overcome the Section 112 rejections made in the Office Action. In particular, the claims have been amended to correct the antecedent basis deficiency noted in the Office Action.

Applicant respectfully submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. No new matter is being added with the addition of claims 12-26. Applicant further submits that the dependent claims are allowable by virtue of depending on allowable base claims. If there are any questions regarding this



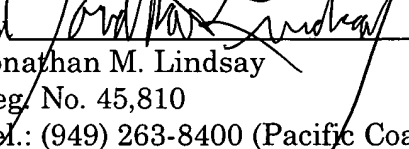
Appl. No. 09/689,681  
Amdt. Dated 06/03/2004  
Reply to Office Action of 03/03/2004

submission or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

Respectfully submitted,

CROWELL & MORING LLP

Dated: July 2, 2004

By   
Jonathan M. Lindsay  
Reg. No. 45,810  
Tel.: (949) 263-8400 (Pacific Coast)

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING/TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8A)**


*I hereby certify that this correspondence is, on the date shown below, being:*

**MAILING**

**FACSIMILE**

☒ deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

☐ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office.

  
Angela Williams Date 07/02/2004